

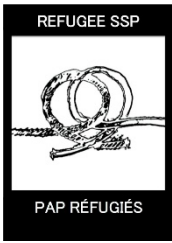
Overview: The Refugee Sponsorship Support Program (SSP)

Background – The Global Refugee Crisis



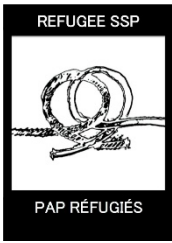
The world is facing an unprecedented humanitarian crisis. According to the UNHCR currently:

- A staggering 65.6 million people are forcibly displaced;
- 22.5 million of these people are refugees or asylum seekers and over 50% are children;
- On average, 28,300 individuals worldwide are forced to flee their homes every single day.



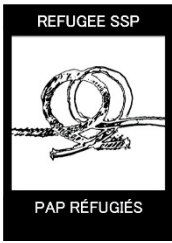
Canada's Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR) Program

- Canada's PSR program provides a powerful means of helping refugees come to safety in Canada (over 275,000 since inception in 1979).
- It is highly complex and technical, with high refusal rates (were more than 90% in some streams at some points in time), often due to technical errors unrelated to the merits of the application.



The creation of the SSP

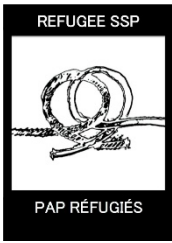
- The SSP was created in direct response to this unprecedented humanitarian crisis and related dramatic rise of Canadians' interest in Canada's PSR program.
- September 2015 – publication of the tragic picture of Aylan Kurdi led to a dramatic increase in Canadians' awareness of the refugee crisis and extraordinary interest in private sponsorship.



Who we are

The SSP supports private sponsorship in Canada through the delivery of lawyer training, direct sponsor group support, and public information. The primary objectives of our activities are:

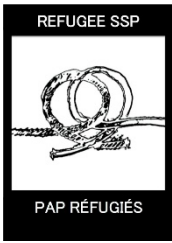
- Encouraging and supporting effective use of the private refugee sponsorship stream; and
- Building lasting capacity in this important sector.



What we do

We operate in Canada from coast to coast delivering:

- Training and expert mentorship for lawyers and law students (training from the Refugee Sponsorship Training Program)
- Direct support for sponsor groups
- A public outreach program
- A campus program

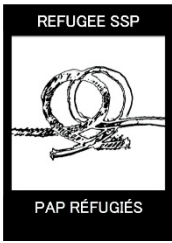


Training and Expert Mentorship for Lawyers and Law Students

Core training for lawyers and law students

Support materials and bulletins

Expert Support

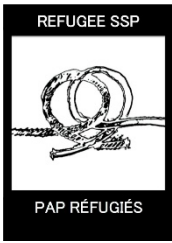


Direct Sponsorship Support

SSP Service Models

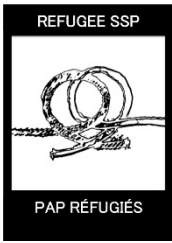
One-to-One Matching

Legal Clinics and Information Sessions



Public Outreach Program

- Partnering with local organizations in the refugee sector to provide public information events and promote SSP pro bono one-to-one services
- Knowledge sharing and community engagement
- Ongoing public legal education

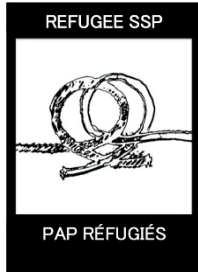


Campus Program

- Training law students
- Direct support to sponsor groups with lawyer supervision
- Clinical education
- Internships

“The campus program helps train the next generation of lawyers able to respond to refugee-related issues, while also instilling ... a fundamental sense of the importance of contributing to access to justice initiatives.”

- Michel Laurier, Vice President,
Academic and Provost, uOttawa



Who do we help?

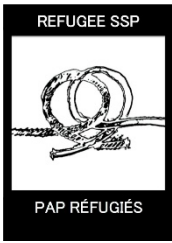
Sponsor Groups

- Groups of Five (G5)
- Community Sponsors
- Sponsorship Agreement Holders (SAH)/Constituent Groups (CG)

Canadian family members of refugees abroad

- Summary advice (intake and understanding eligibility)
- One-Year Window Applications

We do not work directly with refugees abroad to help them find sponsors in Canada. There must be a Canadian group willing to sponsor them in order for us to be able to help.



GROUP OF FIVE

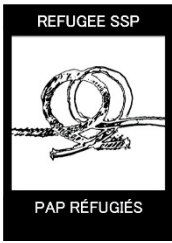
Must meet individual eligibility requirements:

- 5+ members;
- All over 18 years;
- All Canadian citizens or permanent residents;
- All living in the same community the refugee(s) will settle in;
- No criminal charges or convictions

Must meet group eligibility requirements:

- Can demonstrate financial capacity;
- Can demonstrate settlement capacity;

IMPORTANT: Refugees sponsored by a Group of 5 need a UNHCR or state refugee status recognition document to be eligible to apply under this program



PARTNERING WITH A SAH

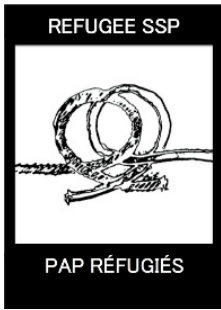
EVERY SAH HAS ITS OWN CRITERIA FOR PARTNERSHIP. Sponsor is responsible for contacting a SAH directly to inquire about the criteria for partnership and inform their clients of those requirements.

WHEN MIGHT A SPONSOR GROUP WANT TO PARTNER WITH A SAH?

Group needs support in fundraising, SAHs have charitable status;

When the sponsorship group is linked to a refugee does not possess a UNHCR or state refugee status recognition document;

When the sponsorship group would like to access the full BVOR list of refugees.



How do we help?

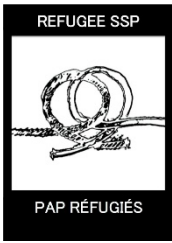
(1) INTAKE

Helping families and sponsor groups understand Canada's PSR system, eligibility requirements, and optimal sponsorship avenues based on their circumstances.

This can happen in the context of a first of many application support meetings, or a stand-alone summary advice meeting where clients are seeking more information.

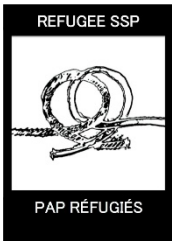
(2) APPLICATION SUPPORT

- **ONE-TO-ONE MATCHING**
- **SPONSORSHIP CLINICS – next clinics: July 27, 2017 (Ottawa), August 12, 2017 (Toronto) and September 9, 2017 (Toronto)**



THE SSP PROCESS – 5 STAGES





Do you want to sponsor a refugee?

We can help.



Come to the Refugee Sponsorship Support Program's free clinic to meet with a lawyer who can:

- Provide information about the requirements of Canada's Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program; and
- Help fill out and review your sponsorship forms.



When: Saturday August 12, 2017 10am-2pm

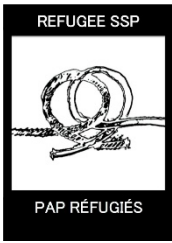
RSVP: email refugeessptoronto@gmail.com by August 2, 2017 about the type of assistance you are seeking.

Location: Downtown Toronto - details will be provided upon registration.

The SSP is an initiative of the University of Ottawa Refugee Hub.

We thank our partners and core donors for making this important initiative possible





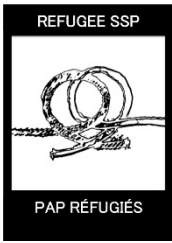
How to refer a case to us

In the GTA and Southwestern Ontario, we ask that you refer all potential cases to us via email at:

refugeessptoronto@gmail.com

In the rest of the province, we ask that you refer all other cases to our head office via email at:

refugeessp@uottawa.ca



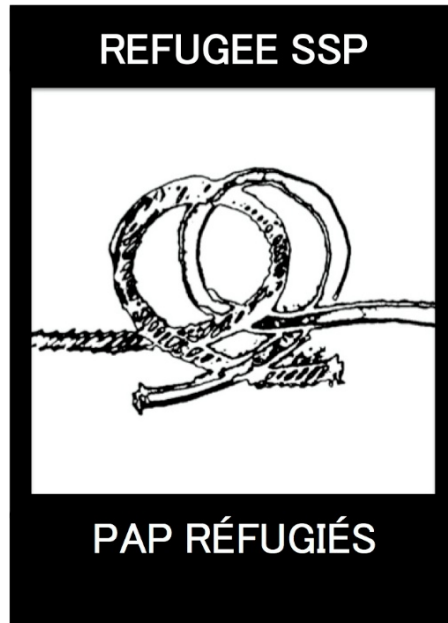
What if someone had their case refused?

We also have a judicial review lawyer referral list which is a list of experienced Immigration and refugee lawyers involved in our program who have agreed to provide free consultations for refugee sponsorship refusals and then offer their services for a judicial review at a reduced fee.

**Please note that there are sensitive timelines associated with refusals so please contact us as soon as possible*

Please email: refugeessptoronto@gmail.com for any inquiries about refusals

Thank you!



Questions?

refugeessptoronto@gmail.com



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